

News Release

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Workers at Siemens VDO Automotive Corporation in Elkhart eligible for federal aid

INDIANAPOLIS (February 2, 2007) – The Indiana Department of Workforce Development today announced a ruling by the U.S. Department of Labor that former employees of the Siemens VDO Automotive Corporation in Elkhart are eligible to receive services under the federal Trade Adjustment Assistance program. The company was formerly known as American Electronics Corporation, and is a subsidiary of Siemens AG, Sensors Division. The workers at the facility produce electronic sensor devices for automobiles.

The TAA program, which is administered at the state level by the Indiana Department of Workforce Development, is made available to workers who are displaced due to foreign imports or shifts in production out of the country.

The federal ruling was issued on December 19, 2006 and applies to workers who became totally or partially separated from employment on or after December 4, 2005 through December 19, 2008.

In order for dislocated workers to be eligible for TAA benefits, a company executive, union representative or three former employees must file a petition with the Department of Labor and it must be approved before benefits can be released. The investigation was initiated on October 18, 2006 in response to a petition filed by the Chauffeurs, Teamsters, and Helpers Local 364 on behalf of the workers.

Additionally, the Department of Labor issued a certification for alternative trade adjustment assistance (ATAA) for separated older workers at the company. It was found that a significant number of workers at the company age 50 or over possess skills that are not easily transferable and that competitive conditions within the industry are adverse. Older workers may choose between regular TAA benefits or a wage subsidy of 50 percent of the difference between their new salary and old salary, up to \$10,000.

The TAA program provides a variety of benefits and services to help unemployed workers prepare for and obtain suitable employment. Workers may be eligible for a variety of re-employment services, job search and relocation allowances and training. In addition, weekly trade re-adjustment allowances may be payable to eligible workers following the exhaustion of unemployment insurance benefits.

Eligible parties may contact the following WorkOne center:

WorkOne Elkhart 430 Waterfall Drive Elkhart, IN. 46516-3696 (574) 295-0105

Fax: (574) 522-3282

Services: All

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